IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1.-4. (Canceled)

5. (Currently Amended) ~~The~~ A method of inspecting a curved shape ~~according to claim 4~~, comprising:

a step of irradiating a surface of an object to be inspected with light from a pattered light source;

a step of picking up an image of the object to be inspected;

a step of analyzing the image to extract a reflected image of the light source;

a step of calculating the position of the reflected image of the light source;

a step of calculating the height distribution of the surface of the object to be inspected based on the position of the reflected image of the light source; and

a step of performing a good/defective judgment of the shape of the object to be inspected based on the result of comparing data regarding the extracted reflected image with data regarding the reflected image from a good product which is registered in advance,

wherein the step of performing the good/defective judgment of the shape of the object to be inspected is based on the result of comparing reference height distribution data which is prepared in advance, with the calculated height distribution of the surface of the object to be inspected, and

wherein the height distribution is a sum of the difference between adjacent reflected images along a predetermined axis direction.

6.-10. (Canceled)

11. (Currently Amended) ~~The~~ An apparatus for inspecting a curved shape ~~according to claim 10~~, comprising:

a light source for irradiating a surface of an object to be inspected with patterned light;

a camera for picking up an image of the object to be inspected; and

a controller for analyzing the image to extract a reflected image of the light source and performing a good/defective judgment of the shape of the object to be inspected based on the result of comparing data regarding to the extracted reflected image with data regarding to the reflected image from a good product which is registered in advance,

wherein the controller is for calculating the position of the reflected image of the light source, calculating the height distribution of the surface of the object to be inspected based on the position of the reflected image of the light source, and performing the good/defective judgment of the shape of the object to be inspected based on the result of comparing reference height distribution data which is prepared in advance, with the calculated height distribution of the surface of the object to be inspected, and

wherein the height distribution is a sum of the difference between adjacent reflected images along a predetermined axis direction.

12. (Canceled)

13. (New) The method of inspecting a curved shape according to claim 5, wherein the object to be inspected is a curved glass sheet.

14. (New) The method of inspecting a curved shape according to claim 5, wherein the object to be inspected is a curved transparent resin sheet.

15. (New) The method of inspecting a curved shape according to claim 5, wherein the object to be inspected is a curved mirror surface object.

16. (New) The method of inspecting a curved shape according to claim 5, wherein the object to be inspected is a curved glass sheet to be employed as a window glass for automobiles.

17. (New) The method of inspecting a curved shape according to claim 5, wherein the light source includes a plurality of dot light sources.

18. (New) The method of inspecting a curved shape according to claim 17, wherein the light source is an LED.

19. (New) The method of inspecting a curved shape according to claim 17, wherein the light source is a fluorescent tube.

20. (New) The method of inspecting a curved shape according to claim 17, wherein the light source is a lamp.

21. (New) The apparatus for inspecting a curved shape according to claim 11, wherein the object to be inspected is a curved glass sheet.

22. (New) The apparatus for inspecting a curved shape according to claim 11, wherein the object to be inspected is a curved transparent resin sheet.

23. (New) The apparatus for inspecting a curved shape according to claim 11, wherein the object to be inspected is a curved mirror surface object.

24. (New) The apparatus for inspecting a curved shape according to claim 11, wherein the object to be inspected is a curved glass sheet to be employed as a window glass for automobiles.

25. (New) The apparatus for inspecting a curved shape according to claim 11, wherein the light source includes a plurality of dot light sources.

26. (New) The apparatus for inspecting a curved shape according to claim 25, wherein the light source is an LED.

27. (New) The apparatus for inspecting a curved shape according to claim 25, wherein the light source is a fluorescent tube.

28. (New) The apparatus for inspecting a curved shape according to claim 25, wherein the light source is a lamp.